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FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6861

BILL NUMBER: HB 1210

NOTE PREPARED: Dec 29, 2004

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Motorized Cart Use at State Parks and Recreation Areas.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Goodin

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FIRST SPONSOR:

FUNDS AFFECTED: X GENERAL
X DEDICATED
FEDERAL

IMPACT: State

Summary of Legislation: This bill requires the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to adopt rules to allow the use of certain motorized carts during daylight hours by an individual who holds a driver's license and is at least 65 years of age or disabled. The bill repeals and relocates the definition of "off-road vehicle". It also makes conforming amendments.

Effective Date: Upon passage.

Explanation of State Expenditures: With respect to the adoption of rules, requiring the DNR to adopt rules will increase administrative expenses for the DNR. However, the DNR should be able to absorb any costs associated with adopting rules given its current budget and resources.

The bill provides that a motorized cart is smaller than the types of motorized vehicles required to be registered by the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. With respect to allowing motorized carts in state parks and in recreation areas, currently the DNR allows some motorized carts in some camp grounds in state parks. The proposal would allow carts on roads within the parks or recreational areas. The roads within the DNR properties are generally like public roads; however, the roads inside the parks generally have no shoulders. Given the terrain in some state parks and recreation areas, it is possible that additional railings and other protective additions may have to be installed.

Requiring the DNR to allow motorized vehicles for certain individuals could also increase administrative expenses associated with enforcement efforts to the extent that the DNR would have to ascertain that the driver of the cart qualifies by verifying age and disability and motor vehicle license. The DNR should be able to

absorb any costs associated with this provision given its current budget and resources or by reallocating current resources.

The DNR Division of Law Enforcement is funded from the state General Fund and the Fish and Wildlife Fund.

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected: DNR.

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources: Lt. Col. Jeff Wells, Division of Law Enforcement, DNR.

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